

The Weekly North-Carolina Standard.

VOL. XXXII.

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RALEIGH, N. C.

The Weekly Standard.

The Trail of the Serpent.

On the 8th of August, 1865, the first copy of the Standard was issued. In an editorial upon the work of restoration, it said:

"So far as North-Carolina is concerned this has been a responsibility placed upon the shoulders of Gov. Holden. Justice and right demand that he should be judged charitably for a kindly, and that his hands should be strengthened."

With this announcement of its charitable and patriotic intentions the Standard began its career.

Of the succeeding day, however, it pointed straight out a certain class of citizens as evil persons. And even then it began to war insistently upon Union men. In speaking of the Convention, it said:

"That body will be composed of many cool, wise men, free from the passion of the times; but there are others guided more by the passion of revenge rather than the virtue of charity, who may seek to wreak vengeance upon those who have visited upon them political or personal injury in other days."

Also! In the beginning, the Standard mistook the intentions of leading Union men, and charged them with dark and revengeful feelings. Is it surprising that a paper which marked certain persons at once as evil persons, should not have hesitated to openly declare against them a short while after?

As we see above, no names were called; worked insidiously.

However, for the present, it appeared contented; and urged "absolute harmony in the work of reconstruction." When the Standard casually spoke of the Union party in this State, it scouted the idea of there being another party, and took us to task for maintaining such a thing. Poor, honest soul, the very idea of a second party in the State seemed to it exceedingly. Perhaps the sorrows of that hour still impress this recollection upon its memory.

On Saturday after its first issue, in which it unveiled every thing good and generous, it assumed a different tone. Perhaps its lack of no party had led it to believe that it was hoodwinked. At any rate, it printed the following ominous paragraph. It was apparently itching to say more. Read it:

"Our quiet submission, however, is but momentary. We can well afford to remain a chrysalis state, verging nearer and nearer every day to the hour of deliverance. The day of freedom, such as we have enjoyed coming to us. Why delay it—why press further from you, by ill-judged, ill-advised questions which avail nothing? The South is in the folds of the Anaconda. Let it be quiet, be hopeful, and these folds will be gradually unrolled. It is free."

"Until she is free!" The Standard was not merely biding its time. It proffered Gov. Holden a fair and honest support, but was only biding its time to break that compromise. The past has proven it. When Gov. Holden of the Anaconda were partly loosed, returned vengeance upon the Governor—out from the folds are entirely loosed, it will maintain vengeance upon the President, for "substitution is but momentary" on the part of the South. We read the future by the is not.

The 8th of the Standard did not break at this time with Gov. Holden. The conduct of the Gov. of the State was not even from that point, until the 14th of August:

"It was absolutely necessary, in order to give success to our restoration to the Union, that whatever plan President Johnson might adopt, should be liberally and promptly carried out."

Proved. We had no man in North Carolina yet in accord with those of President Johnson as those of Gov. Holden, and none in whom the President had more confidence.

And the victory of reconstruction so far in the South, proves that none of the Provisional Governors so thoroughly understand the President's programme, and so fully embrace it as Governor Holden."

Gov. Holden distinctly endorsed the programme in which Gov. Holden was carrying Gov. the President's programme. Gov. Sharpley, of Mississippi, had taken a different view, it is true, but at that time the Standard

preferred Gov. Holden's plan. In its eyes, it was being liberally and promptly carried out. And, strange to say, it was also opposed to secessionists and unpardoned war men taking any hand in the work of reconstruction. So excessive were its ideas of loyalty that it seriously remonstrated with them; and gave it as one of the best evidences of our people's loyalty, that secessionists and unpardoned men were not then seeking office. It said on the 15th of August:

"Now, one of the best evidences of the genuine character of the loyalty of the people of North-Carolina, is that in no instance do we hear of a man of that stamp putting himself forward for office, nor are the people anywhere, that we know of, disposed to demand their services for public office."

And *caveat* when secessionists and unpardoned persons did begin to put themselves forward, the Standard began also to seriously doubt the loyalty of our people. True it has never said so publicly. But as it always "swears to its hurt and changes not," it no doubt adheres to the belief secretly that one of the best evidences of our loyalty is now gone. We regret this unfortunate occurrence as much as the Standard can possible do; and heartily agree with it in the belief that the election of secessionists and unpardoned men to office has obliterated one of the best evidences of our loyalty, but we are not responsible for such selections. Is the Standard?

The Standard at that time also agreed with us. We held the same doctrines now, an earnest support to President Johnson and Gov. Holden, and the selection of men for office whose Union records recommend them to the sympathies of the Northern people, and the preservation of harmony and good feelings among our own people. We have opposed rivalries for office, for we hold that such contests in our present condition benefit no one. On the 15th of August the Standard occupied the same ground. It said:

"It will be quite time enough after she [the State] has gotten out of the difficulties with which she is environed, before she again seeks to embark in political contests and rivalries. She has at present but one end to seek, and that is the safest, smoothest and most promising road to recognition and Union."

This is where the Standard stood up to the time of the discussion of the war debt question. It occupied identically the same grounds that we did, but the difference was that we entertained them honestly, and the Standard did not. It used them as a garment to conceal its intentions. We have but feebly marked out the plot, we know, but enough is given to sustain us in what we say.

In its first issue the Standard said that hungry mouths and "the demands of the times" bade it mount guard, and that at this behest it did so. The "demands of the times"—what were they in the opinion of the Standard? Did the times demand the payment of the war debt? Did they subsequently demand the sacrifice of Gov. Holden, and the inauguration of an era of discord in this State? In the opinion of the Standard it seems so; for verily, it has answered such demands fully.

In its issue of August the 16th, the Standard said, "it would be a dark and melancholy day to us, when North-Carolina and North-Carolinians would repudiate the payment of a just debt, simply because they had the disposition or the opportunity to do it." This was the first blow. The Standard now began its endeavors to saddle the war debt upon the people.

In the same issue it had some of its old twaddle about Mr. Davis. The Standard at that time expressed no sympathy with secession, and completely backed out of the whole thing. Although it has since said that "it swore to its hurt, but changed not," at least this time it staggered in the way. Read it:

"We did not sympathize with Mr. Davis' administration, never believed him, after he was elected by the people of the South, to be a fit man for his position, and was decidedly opposed to his measures; yet his suffering wife and children touch a cord in our heart, as we believe it does the heart of thousands of Northern people and Southerners too, who have had no sympathy with secession."

And yet the Standard wished the war debt to be paid. Its sympathy with secession amounted to about \$15,000,000—the price of blood and treason. It is absurd to suppose that the Standard wished the war debt paid merely from a high sense of abstract right. The question of right and justice was a great question, it is admitted of the Standard's doubting. We think the Standard, at this time, notwithstanding its denial, was evincing the greatest degree of practical sympathy for secession—somewhere in the vicinity of \$15,000,000.

On the 18th of that month it published Horace Greeley's account of the Peace Conference and in an editorial comment said, that if Mr. Lincoln desired peace, Mr. Davis desired it more, as such as four exceeds two! Good gracious, it made Mr. Davis a lamb at once. Of course Mr. Davis friends are they not numerous? at once rallied to the Standard, and voted with it for the payment of the war debt and the election of Mr. Worth. The game was obvious.

But on the 24th the Standard again thought it necessary to re-endorse Gov. Holden's policy. The Standard had taken it up concerning the article about Mr. Davis. In reply the Standard said:

"The Standard is the organ of no party. If there be any other party but a Union party, it does not belong to it. Nor does it seek or desire at this juncture any division or discord or partyism. It is opposed to the whole programme of partyism in our present condition. It is in favor of the earliest adjustment of our difficulties with the National Government in good faith. It accepts cordially the platform of President Johnson for the reconstruction of the Southern States, as it does the policy of Gov. Holden in carrying out that platform, and it will sustain them in all legitimate efforts to accomplish it. What more is wanting?"

A great deal more was wanting. You wanted to pay the war debt of about \$15,000,000.

000. That was wanting and the Standard refused to accede to your demands.

But observe again, the Standard was opposed to party, nor sought nor desired division or discord, but only an early adjustment in good faith. The pains-taking policy of Gov. Holden was especially pleasant. Still the Standard desired the war debt paid. And when parties formed in the Convention on that basis, it fell into ranks against the pains-taking policy of the Governor. Fifteen millions was a wonderful sum in the eyes of the Standard.

In its issue on the 25th, the Standard gave some capital advice. But the trouble with the Standard is that it does not practice what it preaches or has preached. The extract reads as if the Standard might have written it. Read and be satisfied:

"There is danger however, that the Chase and Sumner faction have such influence over the present Congress, as to present a very stout opposition to the recognition of the Southern States next winter. How shall this be prevented by the Southern States? We take it for granted that every Southern State at every Southern citizen desires an early recognition. If there are those who do not, they are purblind. They doubtless prefer recognition under President Johnson's programme to that of the Chase and Sumner faction. What course, then, shall we pursue to effect this? Let the Southern press and Southern people counsel quiet submission and a ready acquiescence in all that is done by the proper authority. If evils are inflicted, and they cannot be corrected by a recourse to prudent measures, bear them for the present, for the sake of obtaining a greater good in future. Above all, let all hasty, imprudent words and acts be avoided. Give a hearty support to the President and his subordinates in carrying out those plans and measures which he endorses. Give no room for your enemies to charge you with indelicacy to the Union, with disaffection to the government, or with hypocritical demagoguery or concealment of your real designs to break out afresh after the danger is passed. Let us act in good faith to the government and its authority. If we expect to receive from it favor and consideration for the future, we must not counsel the same thing them, and do we not counsel it now? But the Standard—"Oh! how have the mighty fallen"—charges us, for giving just such advice as the above, with being a radical. By pursuing the very course which it denounced above, it has brought about the condition of affairs, which it predicted would arise is such a juncture. Need proof be plainer to show, even by the Standard itself, how suicidal and damaging the course of that paper has been to the prospects of early restoration."

But amidst all this the Standard did not forget the great demand of the times—the payment of the war debt. On the 29th of August, in the fervor of its feelings, it spoke out again:

"Shall North-Carolina repudiate—ignore a just debt contracted by her people or her constituted authorities? The iniquity of such a course is too glaring to need comment. The debt is a humiliation. Nor does it do to say that the debt is illegal, that the authorities had no right to contract it. The question is whether the debt is contracted under her assumed authority? Did her creditors furnish the *quid pro quo*, believing she was sane and capable of acting for herself? The same question is equally forcible in regard to County or individual debts."

Could language be plainer or more pointed? In advance the Standard was denouncing the repudiation of the war debt as a "humiliation." Its anger was being aroused. Fifteen millions, good gracious, what a big sum! Of course Gov. Holden, his pains-taking policy, an early restoration—all must step aside for that. In other words the Standard had gone forth. The war debt must be paid. Neither Gov. Holden and the Standard acceded, and the consequence is plain. Does the most skeptical doubt?

About this time the Standard also proposed to pay its own. What a commentary upon its present tone. Then the war debt was to be paid. Then the Standard was in a praying mood. Now the debt is repudiated, we are daily "blessed" as libellers, &c., &c. It is all understood.

But this article is growing long. We have now reached the point where the Standard began to hold Gov. Holden responsible for the Standard, calling it the Court Journal, and insinuating that certain articles were written by him. We shall treat of these things next. "The trail of the serpent is over it all," and there is no difficulty in pursuing the track.

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN ROBINSON.—We are gratified to learn that Captain Robinson, of the Fayetteville Army, who was carried to Raleigh under arrest a few days since has been allowed to give his parole not to leave the city, and is now enjoying the freedom of that wonderful place. We are assured that he will be released and permitted to return to his home in a few days. Wonder if some of the Raleigh press join us in our congratulations to Captain Robinson?—*Wilmington Dispatch*.

Of course the Dispatch is gratified at the release of Robinson. "A fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind." If the Editor of the Dispatch had justice he would himself be here, giving his bail to answer for seditious language.

Important from Washington. We have seen a dispatch from a reliable source in Washington, received at 8 o'clock, Tuesday night the 19th, which states—

"That the President sent a message to Congress to-day on the condition of the Southern States, which is very conservative in tone. Gen. Grant's report of his recent tour accompanied it; also, reports from Generals Howard and Schurz. Gen. Grant says the people are in earnest, and acting in good faith towards the government. The message produced a marked effect in Congress."

Also, that the Secretary of State has issued his proclamation declaring that the Constitutional amendment has been adopted by a sufficient number of States. It is thought the President will send in a message in a day or two, declaring the Provisional governments at an end.

It is said that E. A. Pollard affirms, in his forthcoming history, "The Last Year of the War," that Gen. Lee's surrender was precipitated, and that Custis Lee, when captured, stated that his father would soon surrender.

When it came, it was none too soon for the lives and treasure of the country.

The Standard intimates that Gov. Holden is opposed to the restoration of this State to the Union, in order that he may remain in office. We venture to say that so ignoble a thought has never found a moment's lodgment in the Governor's mind. The Standard knows, and we believe it really feels at heart, that Gov. Holden's chief wish is for the good and the glory of North-Carolina. No man can say, with truth, that he has been governed in his administration by selfish or unworthy motives.

Gov. Holden has done all that any one man could have done to restore the State to the Union; and we repeat what we said not long since, that if Gov. Holden had been elected without opposition, and if all the members of Congress from this State had been such as could have taken the oath, the State would have been back in the Union by the first day of January, 1866. If the State is not restored during the year 1866, no man can say that Gov. H. is to blame for it. He has passed many weary days and sleepless nights laboring for the restoration of the State; and meanwhile he has done all in his power to render the condition of our people agreeable, and to protect them in their rights and interests. This being so—and the Standard will not deny it—why these incessant attacks on Gov. Holden? Has he ever harmed any of these Editors that so bitterly and unjustly assail him? Has he refused a hearing or denied justice to any man or woman in North-Carolina? No one will say that he has. Has he not carried out, in letter and spirit, the wishes of the President? The President himself says he has, and has thanked him in the warmest terms for his "noble and efficient services." Strange, therefore, passing strange, that he should first be defeated by certain politicians, and afterwards pursued so systematically and so bitterly by those who speak for those politicians.

But Gov. Holden can speak for himself.—The following extract from his late message will show his feelings and wishes in relation to reconstruction:

"We can entertain no hope that confidence and activity in business will be revived, or that our people can even begin to renew the former prosperity, until the State shall have been fully restored to her place in the Union. The greatest good of the present and of all coming generations, will be embodied in the practical fact that we are once more a part of the freest, proudest and most prosperous government in the world. As long as this fact is unrealized, the State must necessarily languish in all her interests, and instead of availing herself of her great natural advantages, and springing forward in competition with other States in the career of wealth and prosperity, she will become more and more impoverished."

Let us, then, omit nothing which may be deemed necessary, or even expedient, to obtain the great end we have in view, to wit: the complete restoration of the State to all its Constitutional relations to the common government. Let the divisions and differences which exist among us, and which are calculated to obstruct the work of restoration, disappear under the influence of a more intense and more devoted patriotism. He who does any thing now, whether by word or act, calculated or intended to embarrass the national administration, or to obstruct the work of restoration, incurs a grave responsibility, and can be no friend either to the Federal Union or to North-Carolina."

In conclusion, permit me to assure you, gentlemen of the Standard, and anxiety to co-operate with you cordially and zealously in every thing which may be calculated to relieve our unfortunate and beloved State from her present depressed and unhappy condition."

Feeling all the North. A friend has sent us the following letter from Philadelphia, written by a gentleman of high character and ability.

He speaks very freely and forcibly concerning the policy to be pursued by the South, the condition and prospects of the negro, and the probable reconstruction of the churches. Read what he says:

"Undoubtedly it is the policy of the South to follow the President's lead, and to accept his policy and plans without seeming to be forced to do so. The rising opposition to the President among the Southern people is all the more in the South. The discussions touching the admission of the Southern men will be long and earnest, and I think that it will be determined very much by the character of the men presenting themselves. Some will be taken and others left. In this view I think the election of Mr. Graham from your State, while unpardoned, was a mistake."

As for the future of the negro, that is an immeasurable question which I do not touch. I can see very clearly that unless he makes the white man of the South his friend, his case is a bad one. His position and his relations must be fixed very soon, however, and certainly in regard to what he is to be, and to receive, will be of great advantage to him. I look for an increasing emigration to Liberia of the better class of the blacks."

As to the church, I think that the Presbyterians North and South must stand apart for some years. We must wait in this matter for the influences of time and grace, and I am afraid that time will do more than grace. If the churches should remain apart, and the State be thoroughly united, I must think it will be a reproach to the church, and a serious responsibility will rest somewhere. There is a wide feeling of sympathy for the distressed of Southern ministers, and a good many dollars will flow South this winter for their relief. Perhaps social and benevolent movements will do more to bind us together than any other."

TENNESSEE LEGISLATURE.—The Legislature of Tennessee, owing to the strenuous opposition of the Union members from East Tennessee, having refused to allow negro testimony to be taken in the Courts of that State, General Fisk has been directed by the War Department to try all cases, where negro testimony is involved, before a special court, under the auspices of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Francis A. Fuller has been appointed Collector of the port of New Bern, and his appointment confirmed by the Senate.

and inseparable."—DANIEL WEBSTER.

RALEIGH, N. C., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1866.

The Richmond Standard appears to be distressed because a disloyal Editor has been arrested in this State for using seditious language. It says "the Standard demands the pulling down of the Charlotte Times and Wilmington Dispatch." If we are not mistaken, this is the same paper—the Standard—edited by the same gentleman—R. M. Smith, that in 1863 instigated Confederate troops to mob the Standard office. No such tender mercy as that of an arrest was then bestowed by the Davis despotism on the Editor of the Standard, but his office was sacked by orders from Richmond, approved by Mr. Smith, who was the organ of Mr. Davis; and the Editor of the Standard was forced to escape to save his life. We spoke of the mercy of an arrest. The truth is, there was mercy no where during the late rebellion for a Southern Union man. Many who were arrested were sent off in different directions by officers, in charge of certain soldiers—the report of muskets was heard, and the unfortunate victim was never heard of afterwards.

The Richmond Standard, dripping as it is with the blood of murdered Union men, has the assurance to warn the Federal authorities against "political informers and blood-hunters." That paper played the part of an organ for Mr. Davis for more than a year, during which time every town and neighborhood was visited by detectives, and the hunters of blood were known by burning houses, the wallings of widows and orphans, and the clanking of handcuffs on conscripts torn from their families and forced into the ranks. Mr. Davis and Gov. Vance did this, and the Richmond Standard said well done! Pious parsons and crazy fanatics crowded to the temples of the All Merciful God to implore Him to continue the slaughter until the Southern brother should vanquish the Northern brother, and thus destroy the government of Washington.—and the Richmond Standard said Amen!

This same paper takes Gov. Holden to task because he has not recommended the pardon of Gov. Vance. The reply to this is, first, that Gov. Holden, as we learn, has no information that Gov. Vance has asked for a pardon; and secondly, though the rebellion has been suppressed for more than six months, there is no evidence of a public character that Gov. Vance has submitted unconditionally to the national authority. Gov. Vance owes his present liberty to Gov. Holden. Yet the latter gets no thanks for it from the partisans of Gov. Vance. We have no disposition to think or to say any thing unkind against Gov. Vance or his particular friends, but these constant allusions to him in certain newspapers, coupled with attacks on Gov. Holden, can do him no good. Besides, we cannot forget the Scriptural injunction—

"Neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you."

The Jamaica Massacre. The tales of horror published in the Northern papers of the insurrection and subsequent massacre of the blacks in Jamaica, have been extensively copied throughout the South. It is said that fifty blacks have been killed for every white man's life taken by them. One statement says the island is offensive from the dead bodies of the negroes.

How horrible are such occurrences. It seems that there was no organized plot and no organized resistance, and yet four thousand blacks have been slain. The English government expresses the intention to inquire into the matter. But the deed has now been done. We doubt whether Jamaica will ever recover from the effects of such a horrible slaughter. Only kindness and forbearance between the whites and blacks, when they live in the same country, can preserve tranquility and peace. This perhaps is the moral of the lesson sought to be taught us, by the terrible massacre in Jamaica. We cannot shut our eyes to a similar danger, though it may be remote, and it becomes us all to be watchful, kind and forbearing. During the war the blacks were docile and uncomplaining. Their conduct then has excited respect and gratitude towards them. And should they remain so now, the future will be one of good to their race, instead of evil and suffering.

GOV. JENKINS' ADDRESS. MILLEDGEVILLE, GA., 14. Gov. Jenkins was inaugurated as Governor of this State to-day.

In his address to the Legislature, he says: "There is no conflict between the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Georgia. The laws of the United States are supreme."

The Governor then pays a handsome tribute to the good conduct of the negroes during the war. He says that they must be thoroughly protected in their personal property and have the right to enter the courts. They should be encouraged to work, and then they would be the best working class and their late owners the best employers in the world.

The Governor then reviews the condition of the State institutions, and says that for a time even the lightest taxes will prove burdensome, but he thinks that in the end the people will not suffer.

He concludes his address with an earnest prayer that "God will help us all."

At the close of the address Provisional Governor Johnson handed the great seal of the State of Georgia to Gov. Jenkins, who took the oath of office, and was then declared by the President of the Senate the Governor of the State.

The sentiments of the address are most cordially indorsed by the members of the State Legislature, which adjourns to-morrow.

INAUGURATION OF GOV. JENKINS, OF GEORGIA. WASHINGTON, Dec. 16. The President to-day received the following dispatch:

MILLEDGEVILLE, GA., Dec. 15. His Excellency Andrew Johnson, President: The Legislature takes a recess till the 15th of January, without electing Senators. Gov. Jenkins was inaugurated on yesterday. You will be pleased with his address. I feel confident that there will be entire harmony between him and yourself.

(Signed) J. JOHNSON, Provisional Governor.

Steps are being taken in New Orleans, to erect a monument to the memory of Mumford, who was put to death by order of the late General Butler.

THE TEST OATH.

We learn that the House of Representatives, on Monday, 18th, decided by a vote of 125 to 33 to maintain the present test oath as it is. This is virtually saying that no member elect from this State shall be admitted to a seat in the House, for only one of them, Mr. Jones, can take the oath, and it is not probable that he alone will be admitted. Neither of the Senators elect from this State can take the oath.

This test oath will be insisted on not only as to members of Congress, but as to all other officers of the Government—Collectors of the Revenue, Postmasters, &c. It would be a great accommodation to our people, and an act of simple justice to the Union men of the insurgent States, if this oath could be so modified as to put it in the power of that portion of the Union men, who are really true, to take it. On account of the technical character of a part of this oath, the number of those in this State who can conscientiously take it is small, while there are thousands who could cheerfully subscribe it if divested of this objection. It is hard, for example, that such true Union men as Robert P. Dick, John Pool, William S. Mason, Edwin G. Reade, Thomas Settle, and many who might be named, should be excluded from office by this feature in the oath. Besides, if this test is applied to the Postoffice of the insurgent States, the people must suffer greatly for the want of mails, for the reason that a large majority of those who would make suitable Postmasters, and who would apply for mail contracts, have been, in one shape or another, connected with the rebellion. If Congress is fixed in its purpose to maintain the oath, as it certainly appears to be, we trust some modification will be made, so far at least as the revenue and postal service are concerned.

The people can now see the importance of the advice we gave them before the late election, to elect men to Congress who could take the oath. It is idle to fret—to say the requirement is a hard one, and that the radicals are responsible for it. The Republican party, which now governs this country, and of which such men as Andrew Johnson, William H. Seward, Schuyler Colfax, William Dennison, Horace Greeley, John W. Forney, and Henry J. Raymond are members, requires this oath. It is deemed essential by this party to a safe reconstruction of the Federal Union, and we apprehend the policy indicated by the vote of Monday last will be adhered to. There is no danger that the President and the majority in Congress will come in collision. They will act substantially together, as the sequel will show, in conducting the great work of reconstruction.

From Mexico. We have seen a letter from Governor Henry W. Allen, dated at the City of Mexico on the 3d instant. Generals Price and Shelby, Governor Harris and Judge Perkins, were still at Cordova; General Magruder, Captain Maury and Governor Reynolds, of Missouri, were in the City of Mexico, in the civil service of the Empire. Agents were about being sent to all the large cities in this country and Europe to invite colonists.

The Governor says: "The Empire is an accomplished fact. Law and order is being restored, and the Juarez party is on its last legs. Robbers and other evil-doers will soon be cleared out. The climate here is delightful, the lands rich and money plentiful."—*N. Y. News*.

THE AFFAIR AT LAUDERDALE.—An affair in which some colored troops acted a part, at Lauderdale station, has been the subject of telegraphic communications between the Governor of Mississippi and the President of the United States. It is stated that but little attention. It is probable that the facts have been over-stated to the authorities. That there was bad conduct is certain, but it was probably not so grave a matter as to be worthy of the intercommunication between the high officials alluded to. We have gathered the facts from a very reliable source, and state them as follows:

"On the 14th inst., a freight train bound South, conducted by Colonel O. S. Holland, stopped at Lauderdale station. A negro man was riding on a cotton car. Seeing some negro soldiers near by, he spoke some words which they considered insulting. They threw stones at him, and made a rush upon him. He ran around the train, pursued by them, still throwing stones at him, and sought refuge in the caboose car, where were several white persons and among them some ladies. The soldiers did not enter the car, but some of the stones they threw struck it. About eight soldiers were engaged in it. The officer in command, and ordered the soldiers to their quarters. They all obeyed, except one, who was drunk. The parties engaged in the *melee* are under arrest, awaiting trial for their misconduct."—*Meridian (Miss.) Messenger*.

SEAFARERS AND CHILL.—The demand for copper has probably saved Chill from a costly war, and forced Spain to abandon a project by no means creditable to her. Chill has copper mines. When the news of the Spanish admiral's insolent ultimatum reached London the price of copper advanced; it was seen that to blockade the Chilean coast would be to stop that part of the supply of copper which the Chilean mines furnish. At once the merchants complained to Lord Russell, the British government consulted with the French, and the two united in a remonstrance to Spain, which was, and was intended to be, effective. The Asia, at Halifax, brings news that "imperative orders have been sent to Admiral Paria to stop proceedings and await further instructions."

Copper appears to be king in this case, and the Chileans find their mines of greater account than their fleet and army. Because their country is of commercial importance to the world, Spain is not suffered to wrong them.—*New York Post*.

The following threat was made use of the other day by an excited politician: "I'll twist you around your own throat until there is nothing left of you but the extreme ends of your shirt collar sticking out of your eyes." His opponent left.

A wag in Appleton, Wis., applied a hammer with four quarls of Hungarian steel last spring, from which the same fellow summered about seven million cents million cents.

DEATH SENTENCE UPON A WOMAN.

Mrs. Martha Grider, condemned to death for poisoning a woman, is to be hanged in Pittsburgh, Pa., on the 19th of January. The day of execution was announced to her on Tuesday last. The Chronicle says:

When the sheriff entered, the unfortunate woman greeted him, but on seeing the crowd, evidently divined the object of the visit, and sinking down on the cot, covered her face with her hands, and sobbed bitterly. Sheriff Stewart then read the death-warrant, fixing the 19th of January, 1866, as the day of her execution. During the time of the reading of this fearful doom, the prisoner gave way to violent grief, and in a vehement manner protested her innocence. After the reading, Thomas M. Marshall, Esq., a counsel for the prisoner, spoke to her in a feeling manner, informing her that there was no hope of pardon or executive intercession; that the Governor had gone to Cuba, and would not return until the dread day had passed. He urged her to banish all thoughts of escape or pardon, and implored her to make diligent use of the time allotted to make that preparation for death we all need.

Mrs. Grider replied that she knew that she was a sinner, and had great need of preparation, but she was innocent of the crime of which she had been convicted. She then requested an interview with her husband, and urged his discharge from prison, as he, too, was innocent. On being told that the request would be granted, she appeared more composed, and her husband, Mayor Lowry, the sheriff, and other good-by, were questioning them to visit her again. After all of the spectators had left the cell, except two or three, the nervous system of the wretched woman, which had been strained to its utmost, gave way, and she fell fainting on the bed. Restoratives were immediately applied, and through the attentions of her cell mate and those around she was soon restored to consciousness, and when we left the cell was apparently quite composed.

THE WINE CROP OF FRANCE.

Of 89 French departments, only 11 are not wine-growing; of the others, 20 consume all they grow, and 68 export. In France there are upward of 2,200,000 proprietors of vines. The average annual production of wine during the four years, 1858-61, is upward of 83,000,000 hectolitres, which is equivalent to more than 836,000,000 imperial gallons. The wine-growers are thirty souls, for upwards of 15,000,000 hectolitres are set down as consumed by them. Paris, in 1863, drank 2,666,538 hectolitres of wine, besides about 834,000 hectolitres of spirits, beer, cider, and perry. Setting down the population of Paris at 2,000,000, including the floating population of strangers, the allowance per man is handsome, if we consider how little the women and children consume.

M. Maury, an enthusiastic French wine merchant, has recently printed a book, from which these facts are taken. He gives some sound advice about wine and wine drinking, his book being dedicated "to the drinkers of all countries," and having for its motto, "I pity the water-drinker; I blame the drunkard." The writer holds it one of the virtues of good claret that one may drink a good deal of it; he criticises eight different glasses to be required for each guest at a respectable dinner; and in a chapter on "wine tasting" remarks: "While the act of degustation is accomplishing, the degustator should reflect, and keep in his memory the recollection of all the impressions produced on his tongue, cheeks, gums, especially on the back part of the mouth; he ought, in short, to listen to himself tasting with great attention."

The fasten of Bordeaux are beyond a doubt, the first in the world, and one can compare to them, for sureness of taste, only certain amateurs among persons in the highest society, the delivery of whose senses and the habit of drinking good wines constitute them real connoisseurs."

THE AFFAIR AT LAUDERDALE.—An affair in which some colored troops